

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claim 31, and have cancelled claims 32-40, during prosecution of this patent application. Applicants are not conceding in this patent application that the subject matter encompassed by said amended and cancelled claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, since the claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of this patent application. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue the subject matter encompassed by said amended and cancelled claims, and to pursue other claims, in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or credit Deposit Account 09-0457.

Should the Examiner require or request anything further from Applicant's prior to examination, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the Agent Direct Dial telephone number below. Otherwise, Applicants request early and favorable examination on the merits.

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